



MONTHLY NOTICES

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No. 8

W. H. MAW, Esq., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

Th. Albrecht, Königl. preuss. Geodätisches Institut, Berlin-Potsdam, Germany ;

Gustav Müller, Astrophysikalisches Observatorium, Potsdam, Germany ; and

Jean Charles Rodolphe Radau, Membre de l'Institut, 12 Rue de Tournon, Paris,

were balloted for and duly elected Associates of the Society.

Major B. F. S. Baden-Powell, 32 Princes Gate, S.W. ;

Joseph Henry Elgie, 72 Grange Avenue, Leeds ;

Frederick William Longbottom, Haslemere, Queen's Park, Leeds ;

Frederick John Marrian Stratton, B.A., Isaac Newton Student in the University of Cambridge, Caius College, Cambridge ; and

John Willis, 19 Bouverie Square, Folkestone,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

The following candidates were proposed for election as Fellows of the Society, the names of the proposers from personal knowledge being appended :—

Charles Frederic Aspinwall, B.A., Chestergate, Macclesfield (proposed by E. W. Hobson) ;

Hubert Hayward Champion, Master at Uppingham School, Rutland (proposed by H. H. Turner) ;

Lieut. Alfred Henry Laurence Ferris, R.N.R., Hughenden, Coleraine Road, Westcombe Park, S.E. (proposed by P. Groves-Showell); and
 Edward MacFarlane, Under Secretary for Lands and Chief Surveyor for New South Wales, Department of Lands, Sydney, Australia (proposed by T. F. Furber).

Sixty-eight presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including, amongst others :—

Publications of the West Hendon House Observatory, No. 3, presented by T. W. Backhouse; 20 charts of the Astrographic Chart of the Heavens, presented by the Royal Observatory, Greenwich; J. F. Pfaff, *Commentatio de ortibus et occasibus siderum apud classicos commemoratis*, 1786, presented by E. B. Knobel.

Note on the Annual Inequality in the Frequency of Magnetic Disturbance. By William Ellis, F.R.S.

In Mr. Maunder's paper, *Monthly Notices*, 1905 May, he suggests that the annual inequality in frequency of magnetic disturbance (maxima near the equinoxes, and minima near the solstices) "is not due to a single cause alone, but to a combination of two or more, inasmuch as the curve is not symmetrical about either the equinoxes, or the dates when the Sun's equator is on the centre of the disc." On this I would remark that in my paper, *Monthly Notices*, 1904 January, I have shown the annual inequality in frequency of magnetic disturbance to be very similar, in our latitude, to that of frequency of the aurora. Further also that, as regards the aurora, the strongly marked winter minimum of frequency in our latitude becomes less and less marked as more northern latitudes are approached, until in high latitudes the equinoctial maxima and the winter minimum become merged in one winter maximum. Remarking, then, the similarity in the seasonal frequency of magnetic disturbance to that of the aurora in our latitude it becomes a question, as I have pointed out, what happens in higher latitudes as respects frequency of magnetic disturbance. Do the equinoctial maxima and winter minimum become similarly merged, as in the case of the aurora, in one winter maximum? That is to say, as with the aurora, so also with magnetic disturbance, the effects observed at any given place may be in a way such that the latitude of the place of observation and its geographical position become to an extent dominant factors in determining the local phenomena, in addition to the relations of a more strictly cosmic character.